

## New Behavioral Health Services Rules Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

The Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) adopted new rules effective July 1, 2013:

- WAC 388-877 which establishes administrative standards; and
- WAC 388-877A, B and C which establishes program-specific standards for licensing agencies as behavioral health agencies, and certifying the mental health, chemical dependency, and/or problem and pathological gambling services they choose to provide.

These rules replace the Chapter 388-805 WAC that regulated chemical dependency, Chapter 388-816 WAC that regulated problem and pathological gambling, and specific sections in Chapter 388-865 WAC that regulated outpatient mental health services. To help guide you through the changes, below you will find a few of our frequently asked questions.



### ***Will training on the new behavioral health services rules be provided by DBHR?***

Trainings were offered in Summer 2013. No new trainings are scheduled.

### ***Is there a document that identifies and explains what has changed under these new rules?***

PowerPoint presentations developed by DBHR are available for download:

<http://www.dshs.wa.gov/dbhr/CertLicensing.shtml#dbhr>.

### ***Where can I find the new behavioral health services rules?***

- [Chapter 388-877 WAC Behavioral Health Services Administrative Requirements](#). These rules:
  - Establish the licensure, certification, administrative, and personnel requirements, and clinical policies and procedures for agencies that provide behavioral health services.
  - Reflect the requirements for agencies applying for licensure and agencies currently licensed to provide behavioral health services.
- [Chapter 388-877A WAC Outpatient Mental Health Services](#).
- [Chapter 388-877B WAC Chemical Dependency Services](#).
- [Chapter 388-877C WAC Problem and Pathological Gambling Services](#).
  - These rules establish the program-specific requirements for mental health, chemical dependency, and problem and pathological gambling services.

**How does my agency become a licensed behavioral health agency, or become certified to provide a behavioral health service(s)?**

If your agency was certified under the previous WAC, a Behavioral Health Agency License is issued at the time of renewal. No application is needed. If your agency is a new agency:

- You must complete and submit an [initial application for behavioral health licensure and certification for mental health, chemical dependency, and/or problem gambling services](#).
  - Section I of the application form is the Initial Application for Agency Licensure.
  - Section II is the application for certification for the "main agency" behavioral health service(s).
- Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) staff reviews the application and issues licenses to agencies to provide certified services.

**Which behavioral health services does DBHR certify?**

DBHR certifies the following behavioral health services:

○ **Chapter 388-877A WAC Outpatient Mental Health Services**

Outpatient Mental Health Services:

Individual treatment services (**RULE EFFECTIVE 4/4/14**) - [WAC 388-877A-0138](#)

Brief intervention treatment - [WAC 388-877A-0140](#)

Group therapy services - [WAC 388-877A-0150](#)

Family therapy services - [WAC 388-877A-0155](#)

Case management services - [WAC 388-877A-0170](#)

Psychiatric medication services - [WAC 388-877A-0180](#)

Day support services - [WAC 388-877A-0190](#)

Less restrictive alternative (LRA) support services - [WAC 388-877A-0195](#)

Services provided in a residential treatment facility - [WAC 388-877A-0197](#)

Peer support services - [WAC 388-877A-0340](#)

Medication support services - [WAC 388-877A-0360](#)

Crisis Mental Health Services:

Crisis telephone support - [WAC 388-877A-0230](#)

Crisis outreach services - [WAC 388-877A-0240](#)

Crisis stabilization services - [WAC 388-877A-0260](#)

Crisis peer support services - [WAC 388-877A-0270](#)

Emergency involuntary detention services - [WAC 388-877A-0280](#)

Recovery Support Services Requiring Program-Specific Certification:

Applied behavior analysis (ABA) (**RULE EFFECTIVE 4/4/14**) - [WAC 388-877A-0370](#)

Employment services - [WAC 388-877A-0330](#)

Peer support services - [WAC 388-877A-0340](#)

Wraparound facilitation services - [WAC 388-877A-0350](#)

Medication support services - [WAC 388-877A-0360](#)

○ **Chapter 388-877B WAC Chemical Dependency Services**

Detoxification Services: [WAC 388-877B-0100 through -0120](#) plus, as applicable:

- Youth detoxification services - [WAC 388-877B-0130](#)

Residential Services: [WAC 388-877B-0200 through -0240](#) plus, as applicable:

- Intensive inpatient services - [WAC 388-877B-0250](#)
- Recovery house services - [WAC 388-877B-0260](#)
- Long-term treatment services - [WAC 388-877B-0270](#)
- Youth residential services - [WAC 388-877B-0280](#)

Outpatient Treatment Services: [WAC 388-877B-300 through -0340](#) plus, as applicable:

- Level II intensive outpatient services - [WAC 388-877B-0350](#)
- Level I outpatient services - [WAC 388-877B-0360](#)

Opiate Substitution Treatment Services: [WAC 388-877B-0400 through 0450](#)

Assessment Only Services - [WAC 388-877B-0500 through -0540](#) plus, as applicable:

- DUI assessment services - [WAC 388-877B-0550](#)

Information and Assistance Services: [WAC 388-877B-0600 through -0610](#) plus, as applicable:

- Alcohol/Drug information school services - [WAC 388-877B-0630](#)
- Information and crisis services - [WAC 388-877B-0640](#)
- Emergency service patrol services - [WAC 388-877B-0650](#)
- Screening and brief intervention services - [WAC 388-877B-0660](#)

- **Chapter 388-877C WAC Problem and Pathological Gambling Services**

Problem and Pathological Gambling Services: [WAC 388-877C-0100 through 388-877C-0130](#)

***If my agency is a currently licensed mental health agency, or a certified CD or problem and pathological gambling agency, do I need to submit a new application for licensure or certification under the new rules?***

No. When your current license or certification expires, DBHR will send you an invoice for the annual licensing fee. Upon receipt of payment and other required information, DBHR will issue a license to your agency or, if applicable, branch agency, which will list the certified behavioral health services approved for each location.

***Where can I find and download the new application and other forms?***

Please visit: <http://www.dshs.wa.gov/dbhr/CertLicensing.shtml>.

***What licensing and certification fees will my agency be required to pay under the new rules?***

Licensing and certification fees are listed in [WAC 388-877-0365](#). Complaint and critical incident investigation fees and other requirements are also listed in [WAC 388-877-0365](#).

***When will my agency be expected to comply with the new rules?***

The rules were effective July 1, 2013. Full implementation of the rules was required beginning September 1, 2013.